

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Reply, claims 1-14 will remain in this application. New claims 15 and 16 have been added. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

The indication that claims 3-14 contain allowable subject matter provided in section 4 on page 3 of the Office Action is acknowledged with appreciation. However, for reasons discussed below, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now in this application are allowable in their present forms.

Reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1 and 2 as being anticipated by U.S. Patent US 6,325,462 B1 to Hummel et al. is requested.

The Hummel et al. patent discloses a wheel rim with triangular spokes which are provided with dead cores. Each dead core can be constructed as a foamed core (Figure 3) or as a hollow core (Figure 3a). By way of the dead core, a hollow spoke of a small wall thickness is formed, and the weight of the rim is reduced as a result. Also, as a result of the dead core, openings for removing the core required for other core types are eliminated. Finally, as a result of the dead core, a "removing the core" working step can be eliminated, so that manufacture of the rim at lower operating expenditures is possible.

In addition, in the Hummel et al. wheel configurations, a core fills a spoke along its entire length (compare Figure 1 and Figure 2).

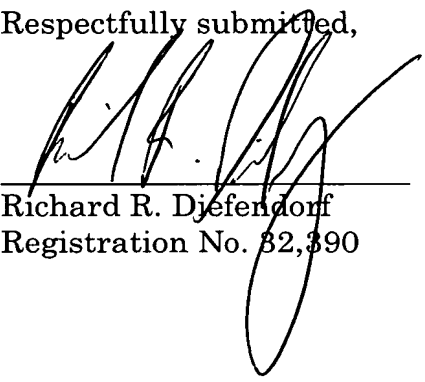
Thus, neither the solid cross-sections nor the V-shaped cross-sections recited in claim 1 are disclosed by the Hummel et al. patent. It is to be particularly noted that, in the Hummel et al. patent, the object is to have a hollow spoke. Since a hollow spoke must always have a closed cross-section, it could not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to provide the

wheel of the Hummel et al. patent with V-shaped spokes instead of the triangular spokes with dead cores. In any event, again, neither the solid cross-sections nor the V-shaped cross-sections recited in claim 1 are disclosed by Hummel et al.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 2 are patentable along with the rest of the claims in this application for reasons discussed above. This application, therefore, is now allowable.

Should the Examiner have any questions after considering this Reply, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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